

MEETING OF  
THE DELAWARE AGRICULTURAL LANDS PRESERVATION FOUNDATION

A meeting of the Delaware Agricultural Lands Preservation Foundation was held at the Delaware Department of Agriculture, 2320 S. DuPont Hwy. Dover, Delaware, January 18, 2012, with the following members in attendance:

Robert F. Garey, Chairman	Ed Kee, Secretary of Agriculture
William Vanderwende, Vice Chairman	Barbara Bennett representing Chip Flowers, Jr., State
L. Allen Messick, Jr., Treasurer	Treasurer
Robert L. Emerson	Kevin Coyle representing Collin O'Mara, Secretary of
Mike Valenti representing Steven Ditmer, Forestry Council	DNREC

Absent: Theodore P. Bobola, Jr., and William "Chip" Narvel, Jr.

The following staff members were in attendance: Austin Short, Deputy Secretary of Agriculture, and Acting Chief of Planning; Howard Mesick, Scott Blaier, Cathy Mesick, Milton Melendez, Kathi Spangler, and Robin West.

Others in attendance: F. Michael Parkowski, Esq.

Chairman Garey opened the meeting at 8:30 a.m. Secretary Ed Kee then took control of the meeting with the approval of Chairman Garey. Secretary Kee announced Deputy Secretary Austin Short would be replacing Michael McGrath as Chief of Planning. The Honorable Austin Short would still retain his position as Deputy Secretary of Agriculture as well as being Chief of Planning for the Department of Agriculture and the Delaware Agricultural Lands Preservation Foundation. As another item of interest to the Board, the JFC Budget hearing for DDA will be February 1, 2012 starting at 1:30 p.m. and the Bond Bill hearing is scheduled for February 28, 2012 starting at 3:00 p.m. The Chairman, Vice Chairman and any members of the Board who wish to do so are invited to attend.

Secretary Kee informed the Board that he needed to leave as soon as possible to be in Harrington and would request that the Young Farmers Loan selection process be placed at the start of today's meeting.

Secretary Kee also waived his veto as Secretary of Agriculture for the three Expansions to be considered at today's meeting.

I. Young Farmers Program Loan Applications:

Austin Short first presented the Young Farmers Report (copy attached). Mr. Short then presented the information on the loan applications received for the Young Farmers Program.

The Foundation Board reviewed the loan applications under direction of Austin Short and discussion followed. After discussion it was decided to approve each loan application individually as follows:

1. Trevor Ramey, ID#Y-S-11-09-035Y. After presentation by Austin Short and discussion, **Allen Messick, Jr. moved to accept the loan application of Trevor Ramey, seconded by Kevin Coyle subject to the completion of any outside loan application process. Motion unanimously approved.**
2. Adam Dickerson, ID#Y-S-11-11-069Y. After presentation by Austin Short and discussion, **William Vanderwende moved to accept the loan application of Adam Dickerson, seconded by Robert Emerson,**
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4. Nathan Jones, ID#Y-S-11-11-221Y. After presentation by Austin Short and discussion, **Kevin Coyle moved to accept the loan application of Nathan Jones, seconded by Ed Kee, subject to completion of any outside loan application process. Motion unanimously approved.**
5. Scot and Corey Givens, ID#Y-S-11-11-080Y. After presentation by Austin Short and discussion, **Ed Kee moved to accept the loan application of Scot and Corey Givens, seconded by Kevin Coyle subject to the completion of any outside loan application process. Motion unanimously approved.**
6. Orville S. Syester, III, ID#Y-K-11-12-205Y. After presentation by Austin Short and discussion, **Barbara**

**Bennett moved to accept the loan application of Orville S. Syester, III, seconded by William Vanderwende. Motion unanimously approved.**

7. Benjamin B. Tull, ID#Y-S-11-12-182Y. After presentation by Austin Short and discussion, **Allen Messick, Jr. moved to accept the loan application of Benjamin B. Tull, seconded by Robert Emerson subject to the completion of any outside loan application process. Motion unanimously approved.**
8. Phillip and Cara Sylvester, ID#Y-K-11-12-228Y. After presentation by Austin Short and discussion, **William Vanderwende moved to accept the loan application of Phillip and Cara Sylvester, seconded by Kevin Coyle subject to the completion of any outside loan application process. Motion unanimously approved.**
9. Jesse A. Ellis, ID#Y-S-11-12-065Y. After presentation by Austin Short and discussion, **Kevin Coyle moved to accept the loan application of Jesse A. Ellis, seconded by Ed Kee subject to the completion of any outside loan application process. Motion unanimously approved.**
10. Aaron R. Ellis, ID#Y-S-11-12-038Y. After presentation by Austin Short and discussion, **Allen Messick, Jr. moved to accept the loan application of Aaron R. Ellis, seconded by Robert Emerson subject to the completion of any outside loan application process. Motion unanimously approved.**
11. Christopher, Michael and Sean Magee, ID#Y-S-11-12-183Y. After presentation by Austin Short and discussion, **William Vanderwende moved to accept the loan application of Christopher, Michael and Sean Magee, seconded by Kevin Coyle subject to the completion of any outside loan application process. Motion unanimously approved.**

Austin Short informed the Board that it could be possible that we will have some funding left over to finance the second quarter Young Farmer Loan program selections. Mike Parkowski added that we should know within three months what we might have left over from the first quarter selections.

Secretary Ed Kee waived the veto of the Secretary of Agriculture for the above Young Farmer loan applications. Then Secretary Kee left the meeting at 9:10 a.m. for another appointment.

II. Current Situation Report:

Robin West informed the Board that we have a total of 1,106 farms in preservation districts totaling 156,693 acres, with a total of 692 farms under agricultural easements totaling 105,558 acres at a cost of \$188,020,537. For PDR 17, there are a total of 30 farms, comprising 1,438 acres, with a value of \$8,802,540. For the Forestland Preservation Program there are 36 Forestland Preservation Areas comprising 2,622 acres. For the Forestland Preservation Area Easements, there are a total of 9 properties, comprising 872 acres, with a value of \$1,450,804.

III. Monitoring Report:

Milton Melendez informed the Board that there is no report this month, as we are starting a new cycle and the next report will be February. All properties should be finished by June 30<sup>th</sup>.

IV. Expansions – Eligibility & Final Approval (Contingent Sale):

1. Elizabeth Town Expansion of the Isaacs #3 Reed-Jensen District, ID#S-11-12-156H. After discussion, **William Vanderwende moved to accept for eligibility/final, approval, contingent upon sale, the Elizabeth Town Expansion of the Isaacs #3 Reed-Jensen District, seconded by Kevin Coyle. Motion unanimously approved.**

V. Expansions – Eligibility & Final Approval:

1. Mr. & Mrs. Phillip Biggs Expansion of the Stormer Farm District, ID#S-11-11-057D After discussion,

**Kevin Coyle moved to accept for eligibility/final approval the Mr. & Mrs. Phillip Biggs Expansion of the Stormer Farm District, seconded by Allen Messick, Jr. Motion unanimously approved.**

2. James E. Mills Expansion of the C. Rodney Sharp District, ID#S-11-11-112E. After discussion, **Allen Messick, Jr. moved to accept for eligibility/final approval the James E. Mills Expansion of the C. Rodney Sharp District, seconded by Kevin Coyle. Motion unanimously approved.**

3. Willey Heirs Expansion of the W.G. Passwaters #2 District, ID#S-11-11-193H. After discussion, **William Vanderwende moved to accept for eligibility/final approval the Willey Heirs Expansion of the W.G. Passwaters #2 District, seconded by Kevin Coyle. Motion unanimously approved.**

VI. Secretary of Agriculture's Veto – Secretary of Agriculture Ed Kee previously waived the right of veto for the above four Expansions.

VII. Public Comments – There were no public comments.

VIII. Minutes:

Chairman Garey asked if there were any comments or changes to the December 21, 2011, minutes. No changes were necessary. The Chairman asked for a motion to approve the minutes. **Allen Messick, Jr. moved to approve the December minutes, seconded by Kevin Coyle. Motion unanimously approved.**

IX. Financial Highlights:

Howard Mesick presented the Financial Statement for the month of December 2012, informing the Foundation Board that we had, as of December 31, 2012, \$298,975.48 in the Foundation's interest bearing State of Delaware account. We received \$65.00 interest income, and \$280.00 license plate income. Expenditures for the month of December totaled \$36,224.46. After discussion, **Kevin Coyle moved to accept the December financial statement as presented, seconded by Robert Emerson. Motion unanimously approved.**

X. Executive Session – Michael Parkowski indicated there was no a need for an executive session

XI. Other Business:

There was no other business.

XII. Adjournment

As there was no further business to come before the Foundation the meeting adjourned at 9:36 a.m. The next meeting of the Foundation will be held on February 15, 2012 at the Delaware Department of Agriculture beginning at 8:30 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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Robert F. Garey  
Chairman